



Connecticut Business & Industry Association

**Testimony of Kevin R. Hennessy
Staff Attorney
The Connecticut Business & Industry Association
Before the Energy & Technology Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT
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My name is Kevin Hennessy. I am a staff attorney for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (hereinafter "CBIA"). CBIA represents approximately 10,000 member companies in virtually every industry. They range from large, global corporations to small, family owned businesses. Approximately 90 percent of our member companies have fewer than 50 employees.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on **SB 1103, AA Redefining Class I Renewable Energy Sources**.

CBIA is pleased to support **SB 1103, AA Redefining Class I Renewable Energy Sources**. **SB 1103** would define the new power produced at existing hydropower plants via facility upgrades as a Class I renewable sources. The impact of this is twofold.

First it incentivizes existing Connecticut entities to invest in upgrading their current facilities and make them more efficient. This is beneficial to everyone in Connecticut because it encourages economic growth and it promotes a clean, renewable energy source at an existing site.

Secondly, expanding the definition of Class I renewable sources will help Connecticut achieve its commendable goal of having 20% of its energy sources be Class I renewable sources by 2020. Additionally, extending the Class I renewable source definition to include upgrades at existing hydropower plants will increase the number of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) in Connecticut which will benefit ratepayers by lowering the prices of the RECs.

SB 1103 is good public policy that will encourage economic growth and clean, renewable energy. CBIA urges the Energy & Technology committee **to approve SB 1103**.